

East Longmeadow Conservation Commission

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Craig Jernstrom, chair

Thomas O'Brien, clerk

René Reich-Graefe

Michael Carabetta

William Arment

Robert Sheets

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Minutes of March 11, 2015

Present were: Chair, Craig Jernstrom; René Reich-Graefe, William Arment, Robert Sheets and Michael Carabetta. Thomas O'Brien was not present.

Request for Determination of Applicability – Abide, Inc., 483 Shaker Road

Chair, Craig Jernstrom opened the public meeting for Abide, Inc., 483 Shaker Road and read the legal notice into the record.

David Chapdelaine, Joseph Chapdelaine & Sons said that they were engaged to replace the existing retaining wall for Abide on Shaker Road. He said that the building is elevated so the wall was built to hold the frost back from getting under footings and to hold back the earth. Mr. Chapdelaine said that it is an interlocking block wall that is failing and starting to lean out and water is getting behind it and frost is pushing it out into the driveway. He said the plan is to remove it, dig down 4 feet below grade and replace it with a concrete wall. Mr. Chapdelaine said that it is on the north and west sides of the building on a paved surface so they have to cut the pavement and then patch it.

Mr. Jernstrom addressed the Commission for any questions.

Mr. Carabetta asked Mr. Chapdelaine if he has a blueprint of the building. Mr. Chapdelaine said that there is no blueprint but he did submit a sketch of the building.

Mr. Jernstrom asked if the wall was put in when the building was put in. Mr. Chapdelaine said that he didn't know. Mr. Jernstrom asked if it is all pavement around where the wall is. Mr. Chapdelaine said yes its all parking lot around it and they will have to cut it in order to excavate it.

Mr. Reich-Graefe asked if they have to over any vegetation to do the work. Mr. Chapdelaine said no they don't. Mr. Reich-Graefe asked how flat the asphalt is. Mr. Chapdelaine said that it is relatively flat but there is some pitch. Mr. Reich-Graefe asked when they remove the wall do they plan to store it somewhere or take it out immediately. Mr. Chapdelaine said that they will get rid of the wall and store the fill back where the trailers are.

Mr. Jernstrom said that appears that it is almost in the 200 foot riverfront buffer zone and asked if anyone knew how old the building was. Mr. Carabetta said that he seems to think it's about 15 to 20 years old and said that he would also like to suggest that a silt fence is placed around the dirt pile.

Mr. Reich-Graefe asked if there is any work on the south side of the building. Mr. Chapdelaine said no there is not and there is one continuous retaining wall wrapped around.

Mr. Jernstrom asked where the stormwater runoff currently goes. Mr. Chapdelaine said that roof drains through wall onto the driveway which isn't going to change. Mr. Jernstrom asked if there is a catch basin somewhere around the building. Mr. Chapdelaine said if there is one they can put fabric in it to protect it. Mr. Jernstorm said that would be his primary concern about the project but other than that he has no other concerns. He addressed the Board for any further questions, there being none and upon motion duly made by Michael Carabetta and seconded by Rene Reich-Graefe, the Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to close the public meeting. Upon motion duly made by Michael Carabetta and seconded by Robert Sheets, the Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to issue a Negative Determination. The Commission determined that the work described in the Request is within the buffer zone but will not alter an area subject to protection under the Act and does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent, subject to the following conditions: Silt fence around dirt pile and fabric placed in catch basin.

Informal discussion Jeremy Shurtleff re: 78 Dartmouth Lane

Jeremy Shurtleff explained to the Commission that he is looking to buy 78 Dartmouth Lane and would like to know if he would be allowed to install a pool if he purchased the house.

The Commission reviewed the plan that was submitted with the original filing for Great Woods III, DEP 150-222 and determined that Mr. Shurtleff would be able to install a pool and regrow the grass up to the permanent markers and that no work is allowed pass the markers.

Mr. Jernstorm thanked Mr. Shurtleff for coming in meeting with the Commission.

Extension Permit – 108 Old Farm Road, DEP 150-0393

Upon motion duly made by Michael Carabetta and seconded by Rene Reich-Graefe the Commission issued an Extension Permit for 150-0393, 108 Old Farm Road because no work has begun. Mr. Carabetta said that he would take a drive by and confirm that work hasn't been started.

Regulations for OPDMD

Mr. Jernstorm asked the Commissioners if they had a chance to look at the OPDMD regulations and if not and asked Ms. Rau to keep it on the agenda. The Commissioners told Mr. Jernstorm that they did not have a chance to review them. Mr. Jernstorm said that he recalls Mr. Kingston saying that the Commission really doesn't need to notify the Selectmen because it is Conservation Land and the Commission is in charge of it. He said however as a courtesy he thinks they should send it to them and said apparently the same situation could exist on the Rail Trail. Mr. Carabetta suggested sending a courtesy e-mail and if they want to follow up that would be great.

Bundled Notice of Intent

Mr. Jernstorm said the he spoke with John Collins of the DPW and he said that they are going to be coming in to the Commission with a bundled Notice of Intent. He said sometimes they can be a little tricky and he is unfamiliar with them and has never done one. Mr. Jernstorm said that Mark Stinson from DEP had sent an e-mail about it but he would feel more comfortable if he came in and went over with the Commission.

Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Rene Reich-Graefe and seconded by Michael Carabetta, the Commission voted (4-0) to approve the minutes for September 24, 2014.

Upon motion duly made by Rene Reich-Graefe and seconded by Michael Carabetta, the Commission voted (5-0) to approve the minutes for October 8, 2014.

Upon motion duly made by Rene Reich-Graefe and seconded by William Arment, the Commission voted (4-0) to approve the minutes for October 22, 2014.

Upon motion duly made by Robert Sheets and seconded by Rene Reich-Graefe, the Commission voted (4-0) to approve the minutes for January 14, 2015.

There being no further business and upon motion duly made by René Reich-Graefe and seconded Michael Carabetta, the Commission voted to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

For the Commission,

Craig Jernstorm, Chair